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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATURAL
DISASTER REDUCTION
Geneva, 14-18 March 1994
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

3. Preparations for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

4. Accreditation of non-governmental organizations for participation in the Conference

5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee

Annotations

Item 1. Election of officers

1. By paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 48/188 of 21 December 1993, the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction was established as a committee of the General Assembly. Accordingly, the proceedings of the Preparatory Committee are governed by the rules relating to the procedure of committees of the General Assembly (rule 161).

2. The Preparatory Committee will elect its officers at the present session. On the basis of past practice, it may wish to elect a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur on the basis of equitable geographical representation.

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Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

3. The provisional agenda for the (present session of) the Preparatory Committee has been drawn up on the basis of General Assembly resolution 48/188.

Item 3. Preparations for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

4. In resolution 48/188, the General Assembly decided to convene a World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction in 1994. It accepted with deep appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Japan to hold the Conference, and decided that the Conference would be held at Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994.

5. The Preparatory Committee will have before it proposals on the agenda, structure, rules of procedure and programme of work of the Conference, as well as information on the organizational work carried out by the secretariat, the preparatory group established by the Scientific and Technical Committee and the organizations and agencies responsible for the Main and Technical Committees. Once approved by the Committee, the draft provisional agenda, draft rules of procedure and draft organization of work will be transmitted to the World Conference for adoption.

6. In paragraph 6 of resolution 48/188, the General Assembly decided that the Conference would have the following objectives: (a) to review the accomplishments of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction at national, regional and international levels; (b) to chart a programme of action for the future; (c) to exchange information on the implementation of the Decade programmes and policies; and (d) to increase awareness of the importance of disaster reduction policies. It is the intention of the secretariat to place before the Preparatory Committee an outline of a draft final document to be adopted by the Conference and proposals for a plan of action.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.172/PC/2)

Draft rules of procedure for the Conference (A/CONF.172/PC/L.1)

Outline of a draft final document for the Conference containing proposals for a plan of action (A/CONF.172/PC/L.2)

Draft provisional agenda and draft programme of work of the Conference (A/CONF.172/PC/L.4)

Document for information

Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Decade on its fifth session, held from 22 to 24 November 1993 (A/CONF.172/PC/Inf.2)

Item 4. Accreditation of non-governmental organizations for participation in the Conference

7. In paragraph 10 of resolution 48/188, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to invite to the Conference all States, national committees for the Decade and organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as concerned intergovernmental organizations and scientific associations, relevant non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

8. The Preparatory Committee will have before it a list of non-governmental organizations that the secretariat believes, on the basis of information provided to it, have established their competence and relevance to the work of the Conference.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat on the participation of non-governmental organizations in the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction (A/CONF.172/PC/L.3)

Item 5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee

9. It is envisaged that the Preparatory Committee will, at its present session, adopt a report that will be submitted to the Conference.